

UNIT. STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SOUTH CAVALCADE STREET SITE

HOUSTON, TEXAS

Site Name and Location

South Cavalcade Street Site (the Site) covers about 45 acres and is located southeast of the Maury-Cavalcade Street intersection in Houston, Texas. This site is about one mile southwest of the intersection of Interstate North Loop 610 and U.S. Route 59.

Site's Rank on the National Priority List

The Site has a Hazardous Ranking System score of 38.7.

Nature of the Problem at the Site

National Lumber and Creosoting Co. operated a wood-treating facility on the Site from 1911 to 1939. The Koppers Co., Inc., acquired ownership of the facility in 1940 and operated a wood-treating facility and a coal tar distillation facility on the Site until 1961.

Three paletized trucking firms developed the Site. In the early 1980's the Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) became interested in the property and contracted Camp, Dresser and McKee to conduct a geotechnical/foundation survey of the Site. Creosote compounds were encountered early in the survey and as a result the MTA redefined the scope of the Camp, Dresser and McKee investigation. The resulting report, "Cavalcade Contaminant Survey," dated July 11, 1983, provides documentation of the pollution. Polynuclear aromatic compounds were found in one location at least 35 feet below the surface (water table at about 10 feet). There is also wide spread surface contamination.

The contaminants include Anthracene, Chrysene, Fluoranthene, Arsenic, Chromium and Zinc. The bond issue that would have financed the Houston mass transit system was defeated and the property is still owned by three firms.

Description of the Activities to be Undertaken during the First Phase

The first phase of activities will consist of the remedial investigation and the feasibility study (RI/FS). The remedial investigation (RI) will be conducted to determine the nature and extent of the pollution at the Site. The remedial investigation will be followed by the feasibility study (FS). The FS will be conducted to develop and evaluate remedial alternatives, and to identify the cost-effective remedial action to be taken at the Site. A detailed explanation of the RI/FS is provided in the enclosed "First Phase Activities, Remedial Investigation, and Feasibility Study."

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CONCURRENCES

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Estimated Cost of the First Phase

The EPA has set aside \$490,000 to conduct the RI/FS.

Date on which the Proposed First Phase Would Begin

The EPA will begin the RI/FS in mid-December 1984.

Estimate of when the First Phase is Expected to be Completed

The EPA anticipates completing the RI/FS by August 1986.

Region 6 Project Officer to be Contacted for Additional Information

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